

8 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 8 September 1969

DD/I reported that the National Security Council will meet on 10 September on the U. S. Military Posture and the Balance of Power and again on 11 September on the Middle East, with the possibility that the Director may be called upon to brief at both sessions. DD/I noted that the related briefing papers are being prepared and added that his information is that the 12 September NSC meeting will be a general session with no briefing requirement.

*The Director called attention to recent articles by Stanley Karnow and Scotty Reston alleging that there is a substantial paucity of information on the political dynamics of North Vietnam. After some discussion the Director asked if we do not owe this Government some backgrounder on how we view the North Vietnamese political scene and suggested that we keep an eye on the situation there with a view to putting together a thoughtful piece on the matter if subsequent developments suggest that it would be useful.

*The Director asked the DD/I to have prepared for external distribution a memorandum on [redacted]

25X1 ☐ the fifteen Brazilian political prisoners who were released in response to the kidnapping of Ambassador Elbrick.

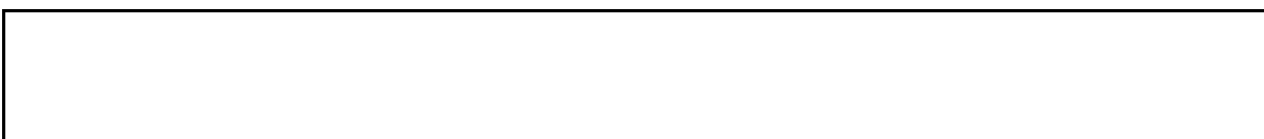
Godfrey noted that the Brazilian scene is relatively quiet now, and in response to the Director's question he observed that the present GOB may be short lived.

D/ONE reported that USIB will meet again on NIE 11-8 at 1000 on 9 September and asked to see the Director on this matter.

ADD/S reported that Les Bush met with the interagency currency group seized with studying Vietnamese currency manipulations. He noted that the next meeting will be held on 15 September.

*The Director asked whether we have received any definite word from the Vice President's office on whether he will be able to attend the 18 September Annual Awards Ceremony. ADD/S observed that the Vice President's calendar apparently will not permit his attendance, but the Director asked the ADD/S to check once again with Kent Crane. The Director requested that his remarks for this occasion be drafted and carefully coordinated with each Deputy and the Executive Director.

Carver reported that he will see Secretary Laird today and noted that Ambassador Bunker will visit the Director here today at 1600.



Maury pointed to his earlier understanding that selected members of the House should be briefed on the Green Beret matter and suggested that he contact Russ Blandford and indicate our willingness to appear before the Rivers Committee at any time. After some discussion the Director asked Maury to see Rivers directly and to brief him in detail. The Director also concurred in Maury's suggestion that Congressman Stratton be briefed. Maury called attention to the article by Harry Kelly in the 7 September Washington Star.

Warner for Houston briefed on steps under way to select a lawyer who could be a consultant to Headquarters in the event the accused Green Beret officers are brought to trial. He added that it might be well to defer final selection of a consultant until after DC/FE returns from Saigon. The Director concurred.

The Director reported that Under Secretary Elliot Richardson has accepted an invitation to have lunch with him here on 22 September.



The Director noted his scheduled speech before the Air War College on 15 September and asked the DD/I to be sure that the draft of his speech is forwarded for review on 10 or 11 September.

L. K. White

*Extracted and forwarded to action officer

Congressmen Ask Reforms in Intelligence Establishment

By HARRY KELLY
Associated Press Writer

Under the cold-eyed glare of key congressmen, the sprawling U.S. intelligence establishment has its marching orders to shape up.

Concerned members of the House defense appropriations subcommittee went so far as to send their own investigators to make a report on management of the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency.

The congressmen who have questioned the efficiency and product of the space-age cloak and dagger system are looking to a former colleague, Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, to straighten out the military part of the multibillion-dollar intelligence community.

Halt Empire Building

They note that Laird named Robert F. Froehlke, an assistant secretary of defense for management, to ramrod defense intelligence and National Security Agency activity, and to eliminate empire building and duplication.

"I think we should give them time," said Rep. John J. Rhodes, a member of the subcommittee as well as of the GOP leadership in the House, who thinks reorganization may be needed.

There are Republicans and Democrats on the subcommittee who feel the intelligence community is so crowded with agents, analysts, scientists and the like that they are tripping over their own cloaks.

"We have people who are literally falling over each other gathering information," said Rhodes. "It doesn't make sense."

Rep. George H. Mahon, who, as chairman of both the full Appropriations Committee and the defense subcommittee, is one of the powers in the House, shook his head: "They just have reams and reams and mountains of information that isn't all very valuable."

Cost Estimates Vary

Estimates of the cost of U.S. intelligence operations — including the military agencies, the CIA, the National Security Agency and spy satellites — vary from about \$5 billion a year to \$10 billion.

The congressmen's irritation and worry was fired by such incidents as the Israeli attack on the intelligence ship Liberty, the North Korean capture of the Pueblo and the Tet offensive in Vietnam.

Those who are usually told about intelligence activities insist they know only what they have read in the newspapers about the latest intelligence case

to hit the headlines — the Green Beret, Army and CIA clash over the alleged slaying of a Vietnamese double agent. But a close observer says it has added fuel to the concern.

To Work With CIA

Under Mahon's chairmanship, the defense subcommittee last year sent a team of investigators to inspect the work of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the spy apparatus catching most of the heat. Investigators reportedly are still looking over the DIA's and some other defense agencies' communication and data processing operations.

Created after the intelligence disaster at the Bay of Pigs, the DIA was put over the Army, Navy and Air Force intelligence agencies, to work with the Central Intelligence Agency. It was hoped the DIA would bring some coordination to the military efforts.

But the congressional investigators found that at the time of the Tet offensive, the DIA was some eight days behind processing Southeast Asian intelligence and had "517 linear feet of file drawer space filled with data unprocessed by the analysts."

After some rough, closed session questioning of DIA Director Joseph F. Carroll last year, Rep. Jamie L. Whitten, D-Miss., fumed:

"I have the distinct feeling, after listening to all this, that

you have gotten so enmeshed in, and so much a part of, a complex and many parted system, that the Pueblo is gone or the Liberty shot up, or the war is over or the invasion has failed, or the Tet offensive has gone by, and you folks are still wandering

around trying to introduce yourselves to each other."

After further questioning this year officials on their appropriations, Whitten said in an interview he saw no major improvement.